try had fixed the following year-wise targets for the present Eighth Plan period:—

Sugar Year (Oct.—Sept.)	Targets of Sugar production (in lakh tonnes)
1992-93	121.68
1993-94	127.76
1994-95	134.13
1995-96	140.84
1996-97	147.88

(b) The estimates of domestic consumption, year-wise, during the Eighth Plan period are as follows:—

(in lakh tonnes)

Sugar year (Oct.—Sept.)	Estimates of Domestic consumption of sugar
1992-93	120.39
1993-94	126.41
1994-95	132.73
1995-96	139.37
1996-97	146.34

As per the Export Promotion Act, 1958, the export quota is to be decided having regard to, among others things, the quantity of sugar available in India and estimated requirement of sugar for internal consumption. In view of this, no quota has been fixed in advance for the 8th Plan.

(c) The request for division of Maharashtra into 3 zones for the purposes of levy price determination has been referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) and the report of BICP in this regard is awaited.

(d) Under the Incentive Scheme 1993, the freesale entitlement of sugar for new sugar factories and restructured units would be 100 per cent for 8 years in "High Recovery Areas" and 100 per cent for 9 years and 66 per cent for the 10th year in "Other Recovery Areas".

Shortfall in the production of sugar

570. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is likely to suffer a shortfall in the production of sugar as much as 20 lakh tons in the current sugar year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet this shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fall in sugar production is attributed to lower production and availability of sugarcane during 1992-93 season as compared to the previous season.

(c) The Government have initiated the following measures to improve the level of sugar production in the country:—

(A) The Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane payable by sugar factories for 1992-93 sugar season has been raised to Rs. 31/- per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 per cent, as against Rs. 26.00 per quintal for the previous season.

(B) For the 1993-94 sugar season, the SMP of sugarcane has been announced in advance at Rs. 32.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 per cent.

(C) The ex-factory price of levy sugar has been raised commensurate with the increase in SMP.

conversion cost & distribution cost. A provision of 40 p./kg. has also been made to recoup the deficits in the Levy Sugar Prime Equalisation Fund Account of the Food Corporation of India pertaining to earlier years.

(D) Creation of a buffer stock of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar w.e.f. 1.4.1993, for which sugar factories wil be reimbursed storage, interest and insurance charges from the Sugar Development Fund.

(E) The levl freesale ratio of sugar has been changed to 40:60 for 1992-93 season from the earlier ration of 45:55.

(F) Mid and late period crushing incentives have been announced as under:—

(i) *Mid—crushing*: The incremental/additional production during the period 1.1.1993 to 30.4.1993 over the production in the corresponding period during 1991-92 season, would be entitled to 80 per cent freesale, as against the normal freesale entitlement of 60 per cent.

(ii) *Late—crushing*: The sugar production during the period 1.5.1993 to 31.7.1993 would be entitled for 72 per cent freesale, as against the normal freesale entitlement of 60 per cent.

Production and export of sugar

571. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production and export of sugar were lower during the sugar year 1992-93 as compared to 1991-92;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what are the reasons for this shortfall;

(d) how it is expected to affect the supply position at home;

(e) what steps are contemplated to step up sugar production in the coming years;

(f) whether Government are considering delicensing sugar industry on the pattern of other industries; and

(g) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The required details are as under:

Sugar Year (Oct.– Sept.)	Production of sugar upto 15th March (lakh Tonnes)	Export of Sugar lakh tTonnes)
1991-92	88.68	5.60 (whole sugar year)
1992-93 (Provisional)	82.40	1.04 (from October, 92 to March, 93)

c) The fall in Sugar production has been due to the lesser production and availability of sugarcane during this season as compared to the previous season.

(d) The estimated internal consumption of sugar during the year 1992-93 is 115.10 lakh tonnes. The country will be able to meet the requirements of internal consumption of sugar from the total availability of sugar during the season 1992-93, as there were comfortable carry-over stocks of 48.34 lakh tonnes on 1.10.1992.

(e) The Government have initiated the following measures to improve the